



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
*Press Release***

7073 RADIO ROAD
FORT POLK LA 71459-5342
Voice: (337) 531-1418
Fax: (337) 531-2403



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Maj. Ron Elliott 337-531-1418

Samantha Bingham 337-531-4630

205th Engineers returns from Afghanistan:
Ceremony set for Thursday

Fort Polk, La.--- A welcome home and demobilization ceremony to honor approximately 435 soldiers of the 205th Engineer Battalion will be on Thursday, May 13th, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. at Warrior Brigade Field here.

These "Citizen Soldiers" of the 205th EN BN, a National Guard unit from Bogalusa, Louisiana mobilized on July 7th, 2003 to provide general engineer support to the Afghanistan Theater for Operation Enduring Freedom.

The battalion deployed two engineer line companies and a headquarters support company to Bagram and Kandahar Afghanistan in August 2003. Upon arrival in theater the 205th EN BN assumed command and control of the theater's construction engineers. This Task Force included attachments of coalition engineers from the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Poland, and Slovakia and the United States 631st Utilities Detachment.

Throughout the deployment, the efforts of the soldiers of the 205th EN BN greatly improved the quality of life at the various locations throughout Afghanistan. The 205th EN BN provided construction support to Bagram Airfield, Kandahar Airfield, and numerous Forward Operating Bases and Provincial Reconstruction Team Sites.

The event is open to the public and the local community is encouraged to attend. Come out and support your troops.

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Media wishing to cover the ceremony should contact Maj. Ron Elliott at (337) 531-1418 or Samantha Bingham at (337) 531-4630.